

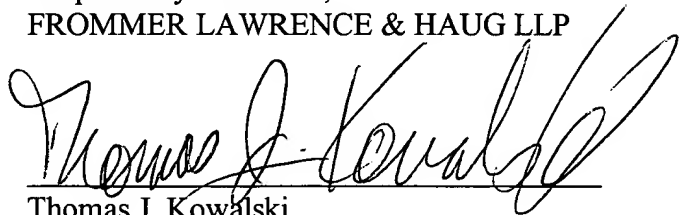
CONCLUSION

In view of the remarks herewith, the November 1, 2002 Amendment, and the matters previously discussed with the Examiner, the application is believed to be in condition for allowance. Consideration and entry of this paper, consideration and making of record the patents mentioned herein, favorable reconsideration of the application and reconsideration and withdrawal of the objections to and/or rejections of the application, and prompt issuance of a Notice of Allowance are earnestly solicited. It should be noted that no new issues have been raised by this paper, and thus, no further search is required by consideration and entry of this paper. Rather, the herewith documents provide additional support for Applicants' position and previous arguments.

The undersigned looks forward to hearing favorably from the Examiner at an early date. If any issue remains as an impediment to allowance, a further interview is respectfully requested, with the Examiner invited to contact the undersigned to arrange a mutually convenient time and manner therefor.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By:



Thomas J. Kowalski

Reg. No. 32,147

Telephone: (212) 588-0800

Facsimile: (212) 588-0500